

WHY HE RESIGNED

Dr. Trousseau Explains He Can See No Advantages in Segregation.

His Belief Based on the Indian Report.

Through the courtesy of Dr. Geo. Trousseau the following letters have been handed the ADVERTISER for publication. The letter dated July 15th, is the letter which accompanied Dr. Trousseau's resignation to the board of health as a member of the board of examiners of leprosy. It contains the reasons given by him for his resignation at the time it was presented. The second letter, dated July 22d, was received at this office last Sunday evening and is supplemental to the first letter. It contains the conclusions of the Indian leprosy commission, and forms the basis of Dr. Trousseau's first letter. The following is the text of both letters:—

July 22, 1893.

MR. EDITOR—After reading your editorial in this morning's ADVERTISER, I agree with you, and give you full authority to publish my private letter to Hon. W. O. Smith, president of the board of health. In the meantime I do not wish to be misunderstood or misinterpreted, and will ask you to publish as well the present communication.

Conclusions of the [Indian] Leprosy Commission (verbatim, page 384).

The following conclusions are based upon the observations and arguments contained in the complete report of 450 pages:

1. Leprosy is a disease sui generis; it is not a form of syphilis or tuberculosis, but has striking etiological analogies with the latter (tuberculosis or consumption).

2. Leprosy is not diffused by hereditary transmission, and for this reason, and the established amount of sterility among lepers, the disease has a natural tendency to die out.

3. Though in a scientific classification of diseases, leprosy must be regarded as contagious and also infectious, yet to the extent to which it is propagated by these means is exceedingly small.

4. Leprosy is not directly originated by the use of any particular article of food, nor by any climate or telluric conditions, nor by insanitary surroundings; neither does it peculiarly affect any race or caste.

5. Leprosy is indirectly influenced by insanitary surroundings, such as poverty, bad food, or deficient drainage or ventilation, for these, by causing a predisposition increase the susceptibility of the individual to the disease.

6. Leprosy, in the great majority of cases, originates de novo, that is, from a sequence or concurrence of causes and conditions, dealt with in the report, and which are related to each other in ways at present imperfectly known.

In conclusion (page 389) the commissioners believe, from the considerations and arguments adduced in the foregoing report, that neither compulsory nor voluntary segregation would effectually stamp out the disease, or even markedly diminish the leper population. (Page 385. Complete segregation has never yet been possible. Both in the Sandwich Islands and in Norway it has failed). It can only be hoped that by means of improved sanitation and good dietetic conditions a diminution of leprosy will result. The commission agree with most authorities in believing that the decline of leprosy in Europe has been due principally to improved hygienic habits and surroundings and increased material prosperity.

Now, sir, my opinions are in absolute conformity with these statements. In my letter (private) to Hon. W. O. Smith I say neither more or less, and say exactly what I mean. You can now follow up with the publication of said letter of July 15th, 1893.

Yours truly,
G. TROUSSEAU.

July 15, 1893.

Hon. W. O. SMITH, President of the Board of Health.

DEAR SIR: Have you received the report of the leprosy commission in India, an octavo volume of 450 pages? If not, I will be very glad to send you my copy.

I received it by the China last Sunday. All my spare time I have bestowed on reading it over and over. It is a magnificent report, and expresses my sincere, honest and earnest opinion on the subject.

My opinion has never changed. For twenty years or more that I have been in the country, and made a thorough study of the disease, my conclusions have been the same as those arrived at by the commission of the national leprosy fund.

As in any case I am respectful of the law, and of authority, I helped, to this date, the carrying out of the law of segregation. In doing so, I was prompted by a feeling of modesty, and hardly felt justified in opposing a measure enforced by men, probably better than I.

My researches with Arning, Lutz, my correspondence with my own countrymen, Unna, Neisser, in Germany; and the Norwegian physicians, and at last this remarkable report compel me to abide by my strong convictions. Moreover, at a great expense, I have lately started a new treatment of tuberculosis (consumption), and leprosy, treatment in which I have, right or wrong, some faith. This, with the suspected lepers at large, I will try at my own cost of time and money, and

communicate results to you if any. Of course it is not a secret treatment and will be at any time exposed to you if you desire it.

Of late I have corresponded with the best authorities on the subject, have procured some valuable remedies and have already begun experiments with such lepers, suspects, as are allowed at large.

Sufficient to say, that I am a non-contagionist and therefore can see no advantages in segregation. I admit with the conclusions of the report, that leprosy is communicable from man to man, but no more than tuberculosis (consumption), or syphilis, perhaps less than the last, as syphilis is inoculable, and there are no authentic data proving the inoculability of leprosy.

But as I say these opinions are mine, backed by constant experiments and arduous study. I am backed also by the report, but have no idea or intention to interfere with local legislation, no more than I interfere with local politics. But I certainly have a right to my own opinions with no desire to make them public hence my resolution to be no more a party to a measure that I think useless and unscientific. In a letter received from one of the eminent dermatologists of the world by the Australia, I translate thus:

"Read the report carefully, compare with your own observation all scientific data at your disposal, and think if you, the bearer of one of the celebrated medical names (this applies to my father, and not to myself; his works and lectures are published in English, German and Spanish besides French) of the century, can continue to support a measure which is only a relic of the ignorance and barbarism of the middle ages."

This to me has been the last blow; hence my resignation.

Yours respectfully,
G. TROUSSEAU.

MR. DUNBAR.

HIS CREDITORS LEAD HIM A MERRY DANCE.

A Young Man Who Publishes Directories and Collects in Advance.

(From Daily, July 27.)

A young man named Dunbar experienced some difficulty last evening in getting away on the Rio Janeiro. The first snag he struck was when an affectionate creditor stopped his passport. Dunbar settled with this man, and, after doing so, he boarded the vessel. Several other creditors then tried to jump him for their money, but he gave them the laugh, and when the steamer departed, he was walking the deck.

Dunbar arrived here some months ago with a neat suit of clothes and a plug hat. In addition to the wearing apparel, he had his gall with him, and so he started to work.

As he informed business men, he came down as a representative of a publishing house which makes a specialty of printing directories. The name of the firm was Dunbar & Co., and he was Mr. Dunbar himself.

He started in on his directory by soliciting advertisements and collecting the cash in advance. In the meantime he had a scheme which was destined to fill a "long-felt want." He applied to the government for a franchise to place a tin sign on each corner of the street with the name of the thoroughfare painted thereon. He also wanted the right to put numbers over the doors of residences so people would have no difficulty in finding their abodes.

The matter came up in the councils but his request was denied. The refusal did not phase the young man a bit and he started to work anyhow. A few queer looking signs were tacked up around town but it is not known whether he received any money or not for his work.

He next commenced to go about town collecting names for the directory. He was not very particular about getting a full list of residents as it appeared that he only had one reporter's note book and when that was filled the directory was complete. His carelessness in this regard made people talk and not a few of the persons who had paid him cash in advance commenced to worry. To cap the climax a gentleman arrived in town who knew the directory man. He declared that he was a fakir and that his name was not Dunbar.

The alleged fakir then thought the place was getting too warm for him so he departed for a tour of the other islands. He returned the other day and departed last night as previously mentioned.

The Makaweli plantation has declared a dividend of 24 per cent. This is the first dividend declared by the company.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

REPORT ON THE NAPOOPOO

CRUELTY CHARGES.

Minor Changes Made—Leave of Absence Granted—Resignation of Miss Hoppin—Several Matters Go Over, Etc.

The board of education met at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon.

There were present Vice-President W. D. Alexander, S. M. Damon, W. W. Hall and Inspector-General A. T. Atkinson.

Secretary Smith read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved.

The special business upon which the inspector general was sent to Hawaii a short time since, was brought up.

Inspector Atkinson reported he had made a thorough examination of the case and charges, and was able to report to the board that the charges of ill-treatment of some of the pupils of the government school at Napoopoo, Hawaii, by the teachers, were not altogether well-founded and, with one exception, he recommended that the teachers be retained.

On motion the report of the inspector general was accepted and placed on file.

The board authorized that arrangements be made for supplying the government English school at Kilauea, Kauai, with pure water.

Applications for leave of absence were read from Miss M. J. Cousen, of the Fort street school, for health considerations, from Mr. T. H. Gibson, of Waimea, Kauai, and from J. K. Burket, of Koloa, Kauai.

After considerable discussion it was decided to grant the applications with the understanding that the two latter teachers were to supply substitutes during their absence.

The resignation of Miss Hoppin, teacher of the English school at Makapala, North Kohala, Hawaii, was read and accepted.

Miss May Logan was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The board also decided that Mrs. E. E. Stevens take the position previously occupied by Mrs. Forest in the school at Pepeekeo, Hawaii.

A number of other matters went over until the next meeting.

The board adjourned at 2:45 p. m.

Tuesday at noon Chief Clerk Hassinger sold the lease of a piece of government land, situated at Hamakua, Hawaii, containing 774 acres, to the Pacific sugar mill for the upset price of \$300.

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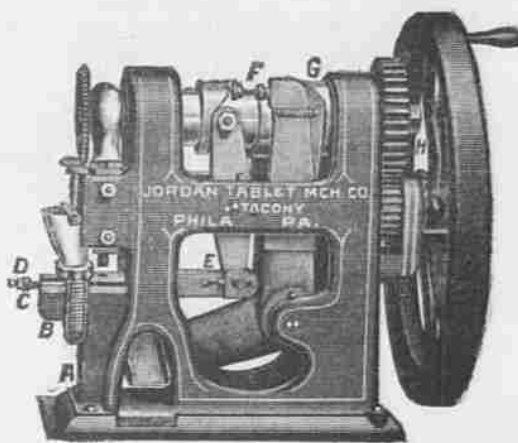
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